

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments to the claims above and the remarks and arguments below, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3, 4, 12, 14, 19, 25-29, and 55-57 are amended as follows.

Claims 1 and 3 are amended to recite the upper limit of the water content within the organic solvent solution to be “the saturated water content for the organic solvent.” Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification as originally filed, for example, on page 50, lines 6-9. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claims 3 and 4 are amended to recite “the same solution” in place of “an identical solution.” Support for the term “the same solution” can be found in the Specification as originally filed, for example, on page 52, line 24 through page 53, line 3. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claim 4 is also amended to clarify that the “use” of the recited solution involves bringing two or more substrates into contact with the solution. Support for the amendment can be found in the Specification as originally filed, for example, on page 52, lines 13-23. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claim 12, which originally depended from claim 1, is amended to be an independent claim by incorporating all the elements recited in claim 1 before being amended in this Response. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claims 14, 19, 56, and 57 are amended to place the language recited in proper Markush format. No new matter is introduced by the amendments.

Claims 19 and 57 are also amended to delete the parentheses “(. . .)” that bracket the text following Formula (I). No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claims 25-29 are amended to depend only from claim 1 rather than from claim 1 or 22. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claim 55, which originally depended from claim 3, is amended to be an independent claim by incorporating all the elements recited in claim 3 before being amended in this Response. The phrase “an identical solution” is also replaced by “the same solution” as in claims 3 and 4 above. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

Claims 5-11, 13, 15-18, 20, 21, 30-34, 38-40, 43, 45-48, and 50-54 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claims 22-24, 35-37, 41, 42, 44, 49, and 63-67 have been withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-4, 12, 14, 19, 25-29, and 55-62 are currently pending and at issue.

II. Withdrawal of Objection to the Specification and Prior Claim Rejections

Applicant appreciatively thanks the Examiner for withdrawing the objection to the Specification and the prior claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 in view of the amendments Applicant previously filed.

III. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2

Claims 1-4, 12, 14, 19, 25-29, and 55-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 as indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner states that the following recitations render the claims indefinite: the range “50 ppm or more” of the water content without a defined upper limit in claims 1 and 3; the “use” of the organic solvent solution in claim 4; and the parentheses “(. . .)” appearing in claims 19 and 57.

Claims 1 and 3 are amended to recite that the upper limit of the water content within the organic solvent solution is “the saturated water content for the organic solvent.”

Claim 4 is amended to clarify that the “use” of the organic solvent solution involves bringing two or more substrates into contact with the solution.

Claims 19 and 57 are amended to delete the parentheses “(. . .).”

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-4, 12, 14, 19, 25-29, and 55-62 are no longer indefinite, and respectfully requests that the rejections of the claims be withdrawn.

